

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-48 stand allowed in the outstanding Official Action and these claims remain in this application.

The Examiner's acceptance of Applicants' previously submitted formal drawings on July 29, 2004 is very much appreciated. Additionally, the Examiner's consideration of the prior art on the previously submitted four Information Disclosure Statements is appreciated.

On page 2 of the Official Action, the Examiner indicates that the version of the claims submitted with the Preliminary Amendment on April 20, 2004 removes antecedent basis issues with respect to claims 8, 43, 44 and 48 and this is appreciated. The Examiner suggests that another set of claims "was entered into the record of this application on July 29, 2004." Applicants did not submit another set of claims on July 29, 2004 but rather submitted, in response to a Notice to File Missing Parts, the signed Declaration and formal drawings (which the Examiner has approved).

It is noted that the Declaration was attached to a copy of the originally filed application, and it may have been that the Patent Office erroneously reentered the originally filed claims into the record of this case on July 29, 2004. If the Patent Office did indeed enter claims attached to the signed Declaration, such entry was in error and does not supersede the Preliminary Amendment filed with the original filing of this application on April 20, 2004. Accordingly, the Examiner is correct that the claims as amended in the Preliminary Amendment dated April 20, 2004 are the claims remaining in this application.

The Examiner objects to the Abstract and Applicants have submitted a new Abstract of the Disclosure in compliance with the Patent Office requests.

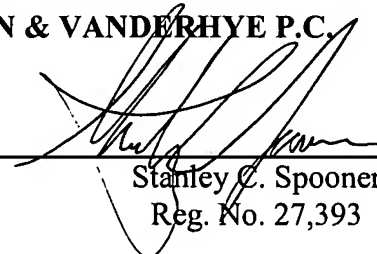
The Examiner's indication of allowance of claims 1-48 is very much appreciated.

Having responded to all objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Official Action, it is submitted that claims 1-48 remain in condition for allowance and formal notice to that effect is respectfully requested. In the event the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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